Michael Malaguti Town Manager

Kellie Caron Assistant Town Manager



Town Council Chair John Farrell Vice Chair Chad Franz Jim Butler Ted Combes Ron Dunn

Town of Londonderry • 268B Mammoth Road • Londonderry, NH 03053

# Londonderry Town Council Meeting

Monday, November 20, 2023, 7:00 p.m., Moose Hill Council Chambers

## A. CALL TO ORDER

1. Nonpublic Session – Tax Deed and Tax Interest Abatement – RSA 91-A:3, II(c)

## **B. PUBLIC COMMENT**

1. Small Business Saturday Proclamation

## **C. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**1. Town Treasurer Warrant Article** (Michael Malaguti, Town Manager & Justin Campo, Finance Director)

## **D. NEW BUSINESS**

- 1. Resolution #2023-24 The Re-Adoption of the All Veterans' Tax Credit (Stephan Hamilton, Contract Assessor)
- 2. Fire Engine Replacement Proposal (Bo Butler, Fire Chief)
- 3. Budget Workshop Discussion (Justin Campo, Finance Director)

## **E. OLD BUSINESS**

1. Adoption of New Electronic Ballot Counting Devices (Jonathan Kipp, Town Moderator)

# F. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. November 6, 2023 Town Council Minutes

## **G.** APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS

1. None

## **H. OTHER BUSINESS**

- 1. Liaison Reports
- 2. Town Manager Report
- 3. Assistant Town Manager Report

## I. ADJOURNMENT

## J. MEETING SCHEDULE

- **1.** December 4, 2023; Moose Hill Council Chambers; 7:00 p.m.
- 2. December 18, 2023; Moose Hill Council Chambers; 7:00 p.m.

In addition to the items listed on the agenda the Town Council may consider other matters not on the posted agenda and may enter a non-public session or convene in a non-meeting in accordance with RSA 91-A if the need arises.

# Town of Londonderry Proclamation

# For the recognition of Small Business Saturday, it is hereby proclaimed by the Council of the Town of Londonderry, New Hampshire as follows:

*WHEREAS*, the government of Londonderry, New Hampshire, celebrates our local small businesses and the contributions they make to our local economy and community; and

*WHEREAS*, according to the U.S. Small Business Administration, there are 33.2 million small businesses in the United States: small businesses represent 99.7% of firms with paid employees, small businesses are responsible for 62.7% of net new jobs created since 1995, and small businesses employ 46.4% of the employees in the private sector in the United States; and

*WHEREAS*, 68 cents of every dollar spent at a small business in the United States stays in the local community and every dollar spent at small businesses creates an additional 48 cents in local business activity as a result of employees and local businesses purchasing local goods and services; and

*WHEREAS*, 72% of consumers reported that Small Business Saturday 2022 made them want to shop and dine at small, independently-owned retailers and restaurants all year long; and

*WHEREAS*, Londonderry, New Hampshire, supports our local businesses that create jobs, boost our local economy, and preserve our communities; and

*WHEREAS*, advocacy groups, as well as public and private organizations, across the country have endorsed the Saturday after Thanksgiving as Small Business Saturday.

THEREFORE, the Londonderry Town Council hereby proclaims November 25, 2023 as

### SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY

And urges the residents of our community, and communities across the country, to support small businesses and merchants on Small Business Saturday and throughout the year.

Signed this 20<sup>th</sup> day of November 2023 at the Town of Londonderry, New Hampshire in the witness thereof the seal and signature of the Town of Londonderry and its Town Council.

John Farrell – Chair

Chad Franz - Vice Chair

Jim Butler – Councilor

Ted Combes – Councilor

Ron Dunn – Councilor

# RESOLUTION 2023-24 A Resolution Relative to Re- Adopt the All Veterans' Tax Credit

First Reading: 11/20/2023 Second Reading: Waived Adopted: 11/20/2023

| WHEREAS | the Town Charter designates the Town Council as the governing and legislative body of the Town; and   |
|---------|---|
| WHEREAS | RSA 72:27-a empowers the Town Council to determine if a credit will be applied against the property taxes of veterans eligible under RSA 72:28-b; and   |
| WHEREAS | the Town, by action of the Town Council, has adopted the provisions of RSA 72:28-b II providing for an all veterans' tax credit, the amount of which is currently \$750 against the tax on the residential property of eligible veterans who are residents of Londonderry, or their eligible surviving spouses; and |
| WHEREAS | the State Legislature enacted revisions to state statute which requires the Council to re-adopt the all veteran's credit or have the credit default to \$50; and  |
| WHEREAS | the Council deems it worthwhile and beneficial as a demonstration of support and gratitude to said veterans for their service to the United States of America and the State of New Hampshire;   |

*NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED IN COUNCIL* that the amount of the all veterans' property tax credit is hereby re-adopted to \$750 (Seven Hundred Fifty Dollars) per eligible veteran.

*NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED* by the Town Council of the Town of Londonderry that the provisions of Title VI - Town Policy, Chapter XXI – Veterans Tax Credit Policy are hereby adopted and modified as set forth herein and shall become effective April 1st, 2023 and reviewed periodically thereafter.

John Farrell - Chairman Town Council

Sharon Farrell - Town Clerk

*A TRUE COPY ATTEST: 11/20/2023* 

(TOWN SEAL)



2181 Providence Highway Walpole, MA 02081 www.allegiancefr.com

October 20th, 2023

Fred Heinrich Deputy Fire Chief Londonderry Fire Department 280 Mammoth Rd. Londonderry, NH 03053

Deputy Heinrich,

This letter serves as a reminder that Pierce will be having a price increase on November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023. However, Allegiance Fire & Rescue will be honoring the proposed price that was delivered to you on Monday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> 2023 until the end of business day, November 30<sup>th</sup> 2023. At that time, the price will increase by \$21,000.00.

If you have any further questions, please contact me at any time.

Sincerely,

Mar

Nick Hilton Allegiance Fire & Rescue New Hampshire Sales Representative NHilton@allegiancefr.com Cell: 508-245-4509



# Londonderry Town Council Minutes Monday, November 6, 2023 7:00 PM Moose Hill Council Chambers

### 6 <u>Meeting Link: http://173.166.17.35/CablecastPublicSite/show/12339?channel=4</u>

Attendance: Chairman John Farrell; Vice Chairman Chad Franz; Councilors Ted Combes, Jim
Butler, and Ron Dunn; Town Manager Michael Malaguti; Assistant Town Manager Kellie Caron

- 10 11 CALL TO ORDER
- 12

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4 5

7

13 Chairman Farrell called the Town Council meeting to order at 7:00 PM. The Pledge was led by

- 14 Chairman Farrell. This was followed by a moment of silence led by Chairman Farrell for Libby
- 15 Canuel and her family.

# 1617 PUBLIC COMMENT

- 18
- 19 Chairman Farrell opened public comment.
- 20
- 21 Name: Kristine Perez
- 22 Address: 5 Wesley Drive

Ms. Perez noted she took an oath when taking public office. A young representative put the Legislative Body on notice that they need to honor their oath to uphold the Constitution. She reminded the Councilors of their responsibilities and said they should not waste the people's

26 money. She said voting machines are illegal under the state Constitution. She said although the

27 RSAs have allowed voting machines since 1979, the Constitution supersedes any RSA. On

November 29th, the Supreme Court is hearing testimony regarding the legality of voting machines.

29 She asked the Council to wait to pick a voting machine until judgment is made, to avoid wasting

- 30 taxpayer money.
- 31
- 32 Name: Bob Slater
- 33 Address: 1 Stonehenge Road

Mr. Slater said the taxpayers funded a portable building at the beginning of the school year. There were technicalities involved with connecting the sprinklers and fire alarms. He expressed his gratitude and that of the School Board for the Fire Department's help in resolving these issues at

37 the state level. He complimented the Recreation and Highway Departments for their work on the

athletic fields and the roads around them. He thanked the Town Manager and Town staff, and said

- they should receive more compliments on the work they do.
- 40
- 41 Name: Tony DeFrancesco
- 42 Address: 1 Chester Court
- 43 Mr. DeFrancesco complimented the Council members for doing due diligence on issues presented
- to them and ensuring they represent all citizens. He asked the Councilors to keep in mind there
- 45 often is a silent majority they do not hear from. He asked the Council to budget for a new electronic
- sign to replace the current sign in front of the Municipal Complex, which only displays information

- 47 to those who are driving south. He offered his help in obtaining a new sign.
- 48

50

49 Chairman Farrell closed public comment.

## 51 **<u>PUBLIC HEARINGS</u>**

52

# <u>Resolution #2023-21 – Acceptance of Unanticipated Revenue from the U.S. Department of</u> <u>Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services</u>

55 56

<u>Resolution #2023-22 – Acceptance of Unanticipated Revenue from the State of New</u> <u>Hampshire Department of Safety</u>

57 58

# Resolution #2023-23 – Acceptance of Unanticipated Revenue from the New Hampshire State <u>Council on the Arts</u>

61

62 Councilor Combes moved to open the public hearing. Councilor Dunn seconded the motion.

| 63 |  |
|----|--|

| John Farrell | Yes |
|--------------|-----|
| Chad Franz   | Yes |
| Jim Butler   | Yes |
| Ted Combes   | Yes |
| Ron Dunn     | Yes |

64

65 Motion passed 5-0-0.

66

67 Chairman Farrell asked Director of Finance Justin Campo if these resolutions could be addressed68 simultaneously. He noted that they address unanticipated revenue.

69

Mr. Campo explained that for Resolution #2023-21, ARPA funds were requested in August to revamp the Dispatch Center, with the understanding that a grant would be received. They have received \$75,000 to rewire and restructure the Dispatch Center. For Resolution #2023-22, \$10,000 has been received to assist with protection at Manchester Airport. For Resolution #2023-23, funding has been received for three years to fund Concerts on the Commons, with the assistance of the State Arts Council.

- 76
- 77 Chairman Farrell asked for public comment.
- 78
- 79 Name: Cindy Rice Conley
- 80 Address: 373 Winding Pond Road
- 81 Ms. Conley asked for the amount of funding on the third grant. Mr. Campo said it was \$5,400.
- 82
- 83 Councilor Combes asked if more funding could have been received from the Council on the Arts.
- 84 Mr. Campo said more was requested but the Council disperses funds they feel are appropriate.

- 85 Councilor Combes asked how the airport funds would be spent. Mr. Campo said he believes they
- 86 will be spent on elevated infrastructure to assist with providing additional protection at the airport.
- 87

Vice Chairman Franz moved to approve Resolutions #2023-21, 22, and 23. Councilor Dunn
seconded the motion.

90

| John Farrell | Yes |
|--------------|-----|
| Chad Franz   | Yes |
| Jim Butler   | Yes |
| Ted Combes   | Yes |
| Ron Dunn     | Yes |

91

92 Motion passed 5-0-0.

93

94 Vice Chairman Franz moved to close the public hearing. Councilor Dunn seconded the motion.

95

| John Farrell | Yes |
|--------------|-----|
| Chad Franz   | Yes |
| Jim Butler   | Yes |
| Ted Combes   | Yes |
| Ron Dunn     | Yes |

96

97 Motion passed 5-0-0.

98 99

## 99 <u>NEW BUSINESS</u>

100

# 101 Adoption of New Electronic Ballot Counting Devices

101

103 Chairman Farrell noted this is the first presentation the Council has seen regarding these devices.104

105 Town Moderator Jonathan Kipp and Town Clerk Sherry Farrell appeared before the Council. Mr.
106 Kipp presented information on ballot counting devices/machines. He said the governing body
107 needs to approve their use and decide which one will be used, and then notify the Secretary of

108 State of their decision.

109

110 The machines Londonderry has used for years are at the end of their lives. The New Hampshire

111 Ballot Law Commission has identified three devices that have been used on a trial basis throughout

the state this year. Mr. Kipp reviewed the due diligence that was done so that they could make a

113 recommendation to the Council.

114

The Commission has conditionally approved two of the devices to be used in March 2024, those manufactured by LHS Associates and VotingWorks. The Town issued RFPs to these manufacturers and as a result, chose the LHS Associates device. He reviewed the rationale behind this choice.

119

Regarding this rationale, Vice Chair Franz said that having the write-in ballots separated from the rest of the ballots is reassuring. Councilor Combes noted it is important that LHS is willing to respond within 30 minutes to any issues experienced with the devices. Councilor Butler commended the Town elections staff on the quality of work they do.

124

125 Councilor Dunn asked if the Council can delay making this decision until the next meeting. Mr. 126 Kipp said. LHS would like to know by December 1. He suspects the timeline for VotingWorks is 127 similar. He noted the current machines will no longer be supported after 2024. Ms. Farrell said 128 there are issues finding parts for the current machines and expressed her concern if there are 129 problems with the current machines during the election.

- problems with the130
- 131 Chairman Farrell asked if the poll pads would work with the new devices. Mr. Kipp said they are132 separate systems, so the poll pads will continue to operate as they always have.
- 133

134 Councilor Combes asked if they have spoken with other Town clerks. Ms. Farrell has seen that 135 larger communities are leaning toward using the LHS devices. Councilor Combes noted this might

cause a problem with availability of machines. Mr. Kipp said the Town will purchase six machines.

137

Councilor Dunn invoked councilor privilege. This topic will be addressed at the next Council meeting and a vote will be required at that time. Councilor Combes expressed his concern that due to the delay in getting materials across all industries, delaying this decision two weeks could cause a problem obtaining a machine in a timely manner.

142

# 143 Order #2023-15 – The Expenditure of Maintenance Trust Funds for Winter Maintenance 144

145 Director of Public Works & Municipal Facilities Dave Wholley addressed the Council. He

explained this request is to allow for a drawdown of \$18,000 of the winter maintenance funds.

147 This will allow him to pay bills from contractors as they are received. Any funds not spent will be

- 148 returned to the budget.
- 149 150 151

50 Vice Chairman Franz moved to approve this request. Councilor Dunn seconded the motion.

| John Farrell | Yes |
|--------------|-----|
| Chad Franz   | Yes |
| Jim Butler   | Yes |
| Ted Combes   | Yes |
| Ron Dunn     | Yes |

152

153 Motion passed 5-0-0.

154

## 155 **Winter Operations Presentation**

156

Director of Public Works and Municipal Facilities David Wholley appeared before the Council and presented the winter emergency operations plan. He noted that Public Works are first responders and make it possible for other first responders to respond to emergencies. He reviewed the organizational chart of the department and challenges that impact performance, including equipment, materials, and staffing. He thanked his staff for the hard work they do. He recommended citizens refer to the Department's Facebook page for updates on plowing operations.

163

165

164 The Council commended Mr. Wholley on his presentation.

- 166 OLD BUSINESS
- 167

## 168 <u>Town Treasurer Warrant Article Discussion</u>

169

At an earlier meeting, the Town Treasurer recommended that the Treasurer position be appointed
instead of elected. The Council discussed whether to have a public hearing on this issue on
November 20th and agreed to do so.

173

## 174 Old Mammoth Road Gate Petition

175

Mr. Malaguti explained that concerns around the four-way intersection at Page Road/Grenier Field
Road/Mammoth Road have been discussed for decades, primarily by the Traffic Safety
Committee. Although the Police Department has upgraded enforcement, there have not been many
infrastructure improvements. It was agreed that if interventions are to be made, the decision needs
to come from the Town Council. Chairman Farrell noted that only Town Council can close a road.

A petition has been presented to the Council to install a gate on Mammoth Road. The Council discussed the unintended consequences of this and if the petition reflects the thoughts and opinions of everyone affected by this decision. The Council asked for more of a cross-section of thoughts and opinions. More signatures have since been received.

186

187 Councilor Dunn asked if residents have been asked how they would be impacted, if a gate is 188 installed. Mr. Malaguti said the concern he has heard most frequently is the ability to turn left and 189 travel north on Rockingham Road. He said suggestions for less significant interventions have been 190 reviewed, such as installing speed tables and speed bumps.

191

Chairman Farrell said the Council will investigate this issue. This investigation would have to befunded by the taxpayers.

194

195 Chairman Farrell asked for public comment.

196

197 Name: Steve Kelly

198 Address: 552 Mammoth Road

Mr. Kelly said the problem is along Mammoth Road, not just at the intersection. The road is usedas a cut-through from Rockingham Road to the airport. The high speed of this traffic is a safety

- issue. He supports installing a gate. He asked for a solution, not for the issue to be pushed down
- the road again. Chairman Farrell urged him to call the Dispatch Center to report violations.
- 203
- 204 Name: Brian Mead
- 205 Address: 555 Mammoth Road

Mr. Mead asked for a timeframe for this to be addressed. Chairman Farrell said the voters will
have to be asked for funds and explained the process for doing so. Mr. Mead clarified he would
like to know when a decision will be made whether or not action will be taken. Chairman Farrell

- said he will ask the Council for a decision, once public comment is closed. The process of obtaining
- facts and discussing alternate solutions, then noticing and having public hearings, etc., could take
- two to three months.
- 212
- 213 Name: Eric Morin
- 214 Address: 528 Mammoth Road
- Mr. Morin suggested instead of installing a gate, half of the road be closed to eliminate traffic
   turning from Mammoth Road onto Grenier Field Road to access the airport. The Council said they
- would need to discuss this with the Fire Chief, as the North Station is located there.
- 218
- 219 Name: Dave Robbins
- 220 Address: 532 Mammoth Road
- 221 Mr. Robbins said due to the double stripe on the road, cars are not giving pedestrians room as they
- pass, so it is less safe. He said if traffic could be slowed down with stop signs and/or speed tables, drivers might ont to take a different road
- drivers might opt to take a different road.
- 224
- 225 Name: Robin Stewart
- 226 Address: 522 Mammoth Road
- 227 Ms. Stewart said traffic needs to be stopped from going through the area. She asked if the other
- end of Mammoth Road could be closed. She said the striping makes the road look bigger and cars
- are traveling faster. She hopes there is a solution. Chairman Farrell assured her he will put it to a
- 230 vote.
- 231
- Councilor Combes asked about closing Mammoth Road near Rockingham Road. Mr. Malaguti
   said this was evaluated but the traffic consultant did not recommend it, based on the second-order
- effects that it would create.
- 235
- 236 Name: Melissa Martin
- 237 Address: 537 Mammoth Road
- 238 Ms. Martin noted that the accidents at the intersection and the speed of cars traveling along

239 Mammoth Road are two different issues. She gave examples of problems she has experienced with

- cars speeding down the road. She has contacted the Dispatch Center and police patrols have been
- sent; however, as soon as the patrol leaves, the speed increases again.
- 242
- 243 Mr. Wholley suggested installing a cul de sac at the end of Mammoth Road at Rockingham Road.

- He said speed bumps are not allowed by law in roadways and rights-of-way. In certain situations,
- there can be speed humps/tables; however, trailers and tractor-trailers crossing these create a lot of noise.
- 247

The Council asked for data on accidents and speed offenders, as well as information on each of the suggested solutions. They also asked for the cost of installing a gate, and for department heads to present information to the Council.

- 251
- This issue will be on the agenda for the December 4, 2023, meeting.
- 253

## 254 <u>APPROVAL OF MINUTES</u>

255

Councilor Dunn moved to approve the October 16, 2023, Town Council minutes as presented.
Vice Chairman Franz seconded the motion.

258

| John Farrell | Yes     |
|--------------|---------|
| Chad Franz   | Abstain |
| Jim Butler   | Abstain |
| Ted Combes   | Yes     |
| Ron Dunn     | Yes     |

259

- 260 Motion passed 3-0-2, with Vice Chairman Franz and Councilor Butler abstaining.
- 261

## 262 OTHER BUSINESS

- 263
- Chairman Farrell asked for a cost on the electronic sign for the Municipal Complex. Mr. Malagutiwill look into this.
- 266
- 267 Councilor Combes praised Mr. Campo for his extensive knowledge of the budgeting process.

## 269 Liaison Reports

270

268

Councilor Dunn reported the Budget Committee toured the DPW and thanked Mr. Wholley for his
assistance. He also said the Utility Committee is meeting November 7, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.

- 273
- Vice Chairman Franz said there is a School Board meeting on November 7, 2023.
- 275

Councilor Combes was not able to attend the Planning Board meeting, but shared that the plans
for the Tesla facility were approved.

## 279 Town Manager Report

### 280

281 Mr. Malaguti recognized the staff for the work done to prepare for the budget workshop on

- 282 November 4, 2023.
- 283

284 Assistant Town Manager Caron made her report.

# 285286 <u>MEETING SCHEDULE</u>

287 288

289

- November 20, 2023: Moose Hill Council Chambers, 7:00 p.m.
- December 4, 2023: Moose Hill Council Chambers, 7:00 p.m.
- December 18, 2023: Moose Hill Council Chambers, 7:00 p.m.
- 290 291
- 292 ADJOURNMENT
- 293

295

294 Councilor Combes moved to adjourn. Councilor Dunn seconded the motion.

| John Farrell | Yes |
|--------------|-----|
| Chad Franz   | Yes |
| Jim Butler   | Yes |
| Ted Combes   | Yes |
| Ron Dunn     | Yes |

296

298

299 Meeting adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

300

301 Minutes prepared by Beth Hanggeli

<sup>297</sup> Motion passed 5-0-0.